



ST MARY'S BRYANSTON SQUARE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Family Update – Friday 30th January

Dear Families,

This half term, we have been focused on our school value of 'Respect' as well as our vision of 'Excellence with Compassion'. We have been challenged to think about what respect looks like in the classroom, the playground, in our homes and in our communities and how simple, positive acts can make a huge difference to those around us.

Our value of Respect is underpinned by the verse from the book of Luke in the Bible which says, "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them" Luke 6:31.

We have taken time to think about how this shapes our words and our actions and how by demonstrating this value, we can ensure that school is a place that feels safe for everyone and an environment in which everyone can flourish.

Please keep the conversation going at home and listen to some of the wonderful ways children have shared, that they will be demonstrating this value each day.



Communication

As a school community, one of our strengths has always been open and honest communication between adults, especially when there are concerns and or challenging conversations that need to be had. At the end of each day, class teachers are on hand in the playground and there is always a member of the Senior Leadership team at the school gate at the beginning and end of each day. We want to encourage open dialogue and continued collaboration between school and families, so that we can work together to ensure children are safe, happy and ready to learn.

In recent months, there has been an increase in concerns being raised using ChatGPT or other AI emails as the first line of communication between families and school. This is not the best way to raise a concern and is not in line with the school complaints policy, which can be found [here](#).

We will always work with families to resolve concerns and this is always successful, based on the relationships we have. Out of respect for you, we will never send you AI generated responses or letters as a form of communication, and we ask that you do the same.

Year 3 Spring Learning



Science

In Science, Year 3 have been exploring rocks and fossils! They demonstrated their understanding by recreating the fossilisation process using leaves and coloured sand.

English

In English, Year 3 have started preparing to write non-chronological reports about tea, inspired by their class text 'Cloud Tea Monkeys'. They have been busy researching and exploring the key features of report writing.



Skanska Workshop

Year 3 were lucky to welcome visitors from Skanska, where they learned all about sustainability and the importance of reusing materials.



Art

Inspired by their English text, Year 3 produced beautiful artwork linked to paisley patterns.

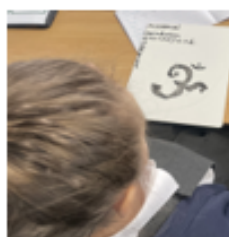
Music

Year 3 have been delighted to welcome two students from the Royal College of Music, who are supporting them during their recorder lessons. They are practising 'The Bossa Nova' using recorders and percussion sticks.



Year 4 Spring 1 Learning

This term is proving to be a busy, brilliant blend of thinking, creating and doing. We're so proud of the energy and effort the children bring to their learning every day. In **PE**, pupils have been serving up success as they learn the basics of tennis. With growing confidence, they have been practising forehand and backhand shots, moving like quick-footed foxes across the court and discovering how teamwork and technique go hand in hand. Alongside this, they have embraced dance with an exciting Space-themed focus, exploring how bodies can float, zoom and orbit through imaginative movement. Pupils have also shown themselves to be increasingly adept at using the new playground equipment, building confidence, coordination and resilience through active play.



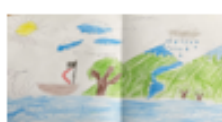
Our **RE** learning on Hinduism was enriched by a visit from a parent (who is also a governor). He generously shared how his beliefs shape his everyday life. The children asked a thoughtful range of theological and philosophical questions, exploring ideas about kindness, worship, belonging, the deities, karma, reincarnation, pilgrimage and much more. It was a valuable opportunity to learn directly from lived experience, helping pupils build understanding and respect for different worldviews. The class are very grateful for this first-hand experience.



Creative flair shone even further as one pupil demonstrated wonderful, eye-catching creativity by designing and building a mandir out of Lego, thoughtfully combining structure, detail and cultural understanding.



Curiosity cooled things down as we investigated *States of Matter*, using ice, in **Science**. The class observed, predicted and discussed how solids can melt into liquids, watching closely as ice cubes slowly transformed. It was hands-on, slightly chilly, and full of excited scientific chatter, as learning quite literally melted before our eyes. This enthusiasm extended into Home Learning, where the class carried out research that resulted in impressive scientific "Water Cycle" posters, clearly presenting information and showing real pride in their work. We've also been proud to play our part in the **Zero Carbon Schools'** project. Through thoughtful discussions and small actions, the children are beginning to understand how they can help care for our planet — planting seeds of responsibility that we hope will grow for years to come.



Problem solving skills have been put to the test during our much-loved Problem-Solving Friday sessions. Pupils have tackled challenges with enthusiasm, including last week's starter that involved cracking shape-based codes using multiplication. With their confidence growing, this class is more than ready — bring on the algebra!

Year 5 and 6 Spring Learning



This term, we've finished and submitted our final ENO composition. After returning from the winter break, we created some lyrics using our libretto. Next, we practiced using our instruments to come up with a musical accompaniment. Finally, we decided on our final piece and it was time to record! We wrote our graphic score as we went but after recording, we took some time to write a finalised version complete with colour, images and even some real pieces of nature. To listen to our final piece, scan the QR code below.



In PE this term, we've enjoyed our gymnastics topic of: Matching and Mirroring. We've worked together in pairs or small groups to create sequences of movements that involve a balance, roll and jump.

We first created our sequences using mats before moving onto using apparatus. We watched videos of Simone Biles and Carlos Yulo to understand how a gymnast moves and performs. Our focus was on holding our balances, ensuring we had extension in our movements and creating a flow between movements.



This term, we took part in the Young Voices Worldwide Wicked Singalong. We practiced our medley of Wicked songs before performing alongside other schools and a choir of 8,000. We loved singing the medley and had a wicked time!



Attendance

Well done to Year 2, our attendance winners this week!

Congratulations Year 2, on your strong start to the term. Keep it up!

Class	Attendance figures
Nursery	97%
Reception	95%
Year 1	96.7%
Year 2	97.4%
Year 3	97.2%
Year 4	93.3%
Year 5 /6	96.9%

Dates for Diaries

Important events for the remainder of the academic year. All of these dates are also on our school website calendar here: <https://www.stmbs.org.uk/diary/grid/2024/09/>

Date	Time	Focus	Led by/who is invited
Mon 2nd Feb	10am - 2pm	Reception class to the London Aquarium	Reception
Tues 3rd Feb	Pm	Performance of the Sound of Music at Westminster School	Years 4, 5 & 6
Weds 4th Feb	am	Author visit at Christ Church NW1	Years 4, 5 & 6
Tues 10th Feb	pm	Parent Teacher meetings	
Weds 11th Feb	pm	School Service at St Mary's Church	Whole School
Thurs 12th Feb	All day	String Ensemble playing at St Paul's Cathedral	Invited Pupils
Mon 16th Feb – Mon 20th Feb		Half Term Holiday	Whole School
Mon 2nd Mar	am	Year 6 Junior Westminster Event	Year 6
Fri 6th Mar	All day	Dress up for World Book Day	Whole School
Mon 9th – Fri 13th Mar		Science Week	Whole School
Thurs 26th Mar	3.15pm	FoSMA Easter Bake Sale	Whole School
Fri 27th Mar	1.30pm	End of Term	Whole School

Dear God,

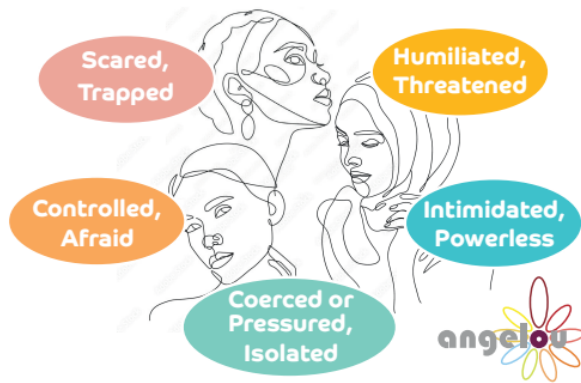
Thank you for our school and for all of the moments of joy and wonder we have experienced this week. Thank you for the knowledge and skills we build each day, for our friends and for all of the adults who help us to learn, in and out of school.

We pray that your presence fills our school and our hearts, so that on a daily basis, we can live out our vision of 'Excellence with Compassion'.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

Has someone ever harmed you or made you feel...?



We can support you with:

- * Increasing your safety
- * Understanding your options and rights
- * Accessing safer housing options
- * Emotional support and linking you with group work and counselling
- * Connecting you to other ongoing specialist support you may wish to access
- * Attending court and the criminal justice processes

The Angelou Partnership

We support young women and girls aged 13+

- * Free, confidential, and non-judgmental support if you have been subjected to domestic and/or sexual violence or abuse, and live within the London boroughs of Westminster, Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington and Chelsea.



For Domestic Abuse

Freephone 0800 059 0108
Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm
and Thursdays 8am – 9pm
angelou@advancecharity.org.uk

For Sexual Violence Support

Freephone 0808 801 0660
Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm
and Wednesdays 6 – 9pm
advice@wgn.org.uk
Webchat: <https://www.wgn.org.uk/>

In an Emergency
Call 999

24 hour Freephone, National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247
If you are male please call the Men's Advice Line 0808 8010 327

The Angelou Partnership



advance

NETWORK

solace

UKWRO

galop
lgbt+

DVP

STANDING
TOGETHER

woman's
Trust

Hestia

We can help with:

- * Domestic abuse from a partner or a family member
- * Sexual violence or abuse, including rape and child sexual exploitation – regardless of when it happened
- * Stalking and harassment
- * Harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage and so called 'honour'-based violence
- * Specialist support for Black, Asian, and Arabic-speaking women
- * Specialist support for LGBTQI+ people
- * Young women and girls aged 13+

We can provide ongoing support via:

- Face to Face
- Over the phone
- Via video (Skype, WhatsApp, FaceTime, Zoom)
- In other languages If English is not your first language

Find out more about the service and the Angelou Partnership

www.angelou.org

THE ANGELOU PARTNERSHIP IS FUNDED BY:

h&f
hammersmith & fulham

City of Westminster

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

